



Sunrise Herald

January 2013

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December Featured Fun & Food

Other than Show & Tell, Sunrise Division's December meeting did not follow the regular agenda. Instead, we enjoyed a showing of the Buster Keaton silent classic, *The General*, ate way too many goodies, and just enjoyed conversations with fellow modelers. There was a good turnout for our end-of-year bash

The General, now considered one of the finest silent movies ever made, was loosely based upon the real-life raid by a Northern spy, James J. Andrews. In 1862 he led a group of volunteers who hijacked a locomotive in Georgia, driving it north and

sabotaging the line as they went. Eventually Andrews and his men were captured eighteen miles from Chattanooga. Many were executed as spies. The first Medal of Honor was awarded to Private Jacob Parrott, who was one of the raiders.

The film itself was considered a critical and financial failure, and Keaton was forced to forego independent film production from then on.

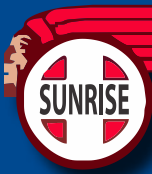
There was also a short look back at the Big Horn Mixed Convention, which can be found online at <http://youtu.be/7ps9LHuUjPk> —SH

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Don Francis and Jerry Brooks talk in the kitchen.



From The Chief

BY JIM LAIRD, DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT

Christmas is past, the New Year is ahead, snow has fallen, and I'm looking at a blank screen, trying to put some worthwhile thoughts together. The deadline for this column comes up so very quickly. Throw in the holidays, and I'm already behind. [Editor: Which also explains the small newsletter.]

A thank you

First, as a member of Holy Love I want to thank the Division members for their generosity at the December meeting. Not only did we fill nine shopping bags with food for the food pantry, but we donated \$180.00 to the church. Personally I think that is a bargain for us compared to other meeting locations we have utilized in the past. I hope we can continue the donations to the food pantry—this is going to be an oft repeated call—as I have seen the amount of food that goes out each week.

Modular plans

Now is the second month of my attaining the high position of Division Superintendent, I am starting to look to what we can do to promote the Division, the NMRA, and the hobby in general. The modular railroad is coming along, and soon we will be called on to provide scenery and buildings.

I was formerly a member of the Winnebago Division, MWR, which held twice-a-year mini-meets. Since the modular is soon to be operational and I think it

is scheduled to be at the *Rails Along the Rio Grand* 2013 convention, it might be a good idea to have a mini-meet in March or April as a "shake down cruise" prior to going to the Region convention. Perhaps we could haul it out again in October, for another mini-meet to coincide with the Region's Board Meeting.

There are already two train shows in November, so I don't think we want to crowd more into that month—even though it is National Model Railroad Month. Perhaps we could provide the day school at Holy Love with a special tour of the modular prior to our mini-meet or offer a discount to members of Holy Love for these events.

Upcoming clinics

I am changing hats—still the same head though. As Division Program Chair I am always looking for ideas, suggestions, and those who will provide clinics for our monthly meetings. Some of the ideas suggested have been on the history of Colorado Railroad and railroading in general. As I have been involved in conversations about electricity and the lack of abilities to construct, troubleshoot, and maintain the various systems on our railroads, perhaps a clinic on "Basic Electricity" for model railroaders is in order.

Show & Tell for 2013

The Show & Tell themes are set for the upcoming year, and I think you'll enjoy the mix. Remember that each entry is eligible for a random drawing of a Caboose Hob-

bies \$10 gift certificate.

Do I have enough heads?

Another new hat: I have many. As Region AP chair I want to encourage each of you to participate in the program and claim the certificates that you have earned for work on conventions, producing and presenting clinics, and serving on division and regional committees. Think about it.



Closing thoughts

I hope you all had a great holiday season, and that Santa was especially good to you. If he was this year or in the past, you might want to take a close look at this month's Show & Tell theme. See you all January 3 at our regular meeting. —SH



Division Data

Sunrise Division promotes and encourages model railroading from I-25 east to the Kansas border. We welcome all model railroaders, regardless of skill or experience, because our goal is to have fun.

The *Sunrise Herald* is a publication of the Sunrise Division of the Rocky Mountain Region, National Model Railroad Association.

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Module News



BY TOM FRERICH

On December 11, the modules had their first real test. Don Francis reported that it took less than an hour to set

up and thirty minutes to tear down the entire layout. Thanks are due the Tuesday Night Group who were the guinea pigs for the effort.

Don took a batch of pictures (I ended up having to work), but I haven't received them yet.

Don also said that the first show is set for March. —SH

Show & Tell



Show & Tell Doesn't Depend On the Season

December's theme was "railcars," and we had some interesting examples shown in the midst of the feasting.

Right: Rich Flammini brought a diorama showing how Christmas ornaments are delivered on his layout. **Below:** This CB&Q gas-electric was Don Francis's HO-scale offering.



Bottom: Stewart Jones brought this HO-scale model of a Sperry Rail Detector Car. These self-propelled cars are leased from the Sperry Company to inspect track, a service begun in 1928. The cars use electronic, ultrasonic, and magnetic induction systems in the long truck to detect faults in the rails. If a car detects a fault, it sprays the rail with white paint for later work by a track crew.

A crew of five operates each car at speeds from six to twelve miles per hour. The car contains living quarters for the crew, who often must tie-up at remote locations at the end of the shift.

Sperry rebuilt many cars from older gas-electric equipment, but this Walther's model represents one built by Electro Motive using a St. Louis Car Co. car body



Focus on the Future

Cut Here, Fold There, & Voilà!

Our January clinic features a fun and inexpensive way to add structures to your layout.

Early layouts featured finely detailed models made from card stock, but the practice became rarer in favor of using styrene and wood construction. However, the advent of good quality color printers has brought back the technique.

It is now possible to create finely detailed structures from printed card stock, models that from a reasonable viewing distance are indistinguishable from those made using other modeling techniques.

Jim Laird will be showing the techniques used in assembling card stock structures. Additionally, we will have a free example in HO and N-scales that you can take home to assemble yourself. You can later bring your example for the March Show & Tell.

Show & Tell in January is the best railroad Christmas present you have received, either this year or in years past.

Hope to see you at the meeting on January 3.

Show & Tell Themes

When you submit a model for the show and tell, you automatically are entered into a drawing for a gift certificate from Caboose Hobbies in Denver.

January 3 Best railroad Christmas present
February 7 Tank cars
March 7 Look what I made
 from the free card-stock download
April 4 Foreground tree or trees
May 2 Culverts
June No meeting (RMR Convention)
July No meeting (Have a safe Fourth!)
August 1 Favorite photo (model or prototype)
September 5 USRA — you pick the category
October 3 On-line structures
November 7 Narrow gauge rolling stock
December 5 Christmas memories

Upcoming Events

Events are a little thin this time, but many places—for example the Colorado Railroad Museum—haven't updated their schedules for the new year.

- ◇ **January 3, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting,** Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM
- ◇ **February 7, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting,** Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM
- ◇ **March 7, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting,** Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM
- ◇ **April 4, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting,** Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM
- ◇ **May 2, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting,** Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM
- ◇ **June 6—9, Rails Along the Rio Grande 2013 RMR Convention,** Albuquerque, New Mexico. For information: <http://www.rarg2013.org/>
- ◇ **August 1, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting,** Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM
- ◇ **September 5, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting,** Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM
- ◇ **October 3, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting,** Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM
- ◇ **November 7, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting,** Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM
- ◇ **December 5, Sunrise Division Regular Meeting,** Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 South Chambers Road, Aurora, Colorado. 7:15 PM



Don't forget the meeting—after-the-meeting. Join us at Village Inn, Iliff & Chambers, for pie, coffee, and maybe a little stretching of the truth now and then.